9784047124318
1920979005808
ISBN4-04-712431-1
C0979 ¥580E
定価:本体580円(税別)
発行:富士見書房
発売:角川書店

Variante
requiem for the world

Variante

requiem for the world

ヴァリアンテ

03

杉基イクラ
SUGIMOTO IQURA

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My world changed after I lost everything

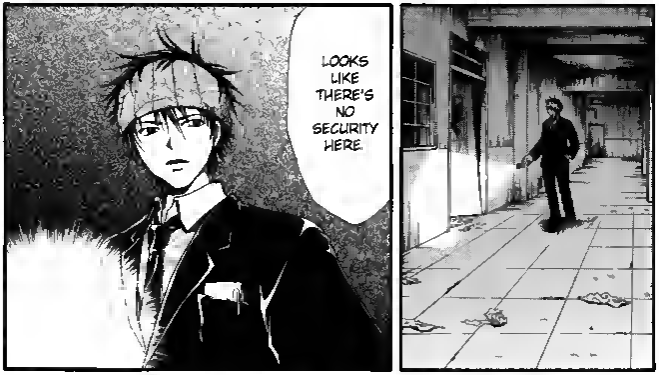
#00IO [CRIME AND PUNISHMENT]

Family and friends, my home and the school, too

It's as if there never was such a thing...

#0010
[PUNISHMENT CRIME AND]
I thought there was nothing more.
What I was given was,
this weapon of a left hand and to fight with chimeras.
There's nothing more.

CRUNCH


LOOKS LIKE THERE'S NO SECURITY HERE.

IT LOOKS LIKE JUST AN ABAN-DONED BUILDING TO ME.
WHY DID ATHEOS NEED TO HIDE THE EXISTANCE OF THIS PLACE ?

SFX: CRUMPLE
TAKE THIS...
THE ONLY THING I HAVE IS THE INFO THAT UNKNOWN MAN GAVE ME
THERE MUST BE SOMETHING RELATED TO NANA HERE
---OH
I GUESS THERE WAS SECURITY
OVER THERE
SFX: CLACK CLACK

JUST HERE FOR AN ERRAND FROM THE MAIN BUILDING.
I DIDN'T HEAR OF ANYTHING.
THEN PLEASE, MAKE SURE
HEY, WHERE DID YOU COME IN FROM!? THIS ZONE IS PROHIBITED.
THANKS FOR YOUR HARD WORK EVEN AT NIGHT.
SORRY, BUT I CAN'T WAIT.
WHA---?
...WAIT A MINUTE
SFX: POINT
YE... YES.
WHAT'S BEYOND HERE?
ARE YOU THE ONLY SECURITY?

I SEE
I... I DON'T KNOW... I WAS JUST TOLD TO PROTECT THIS AREA.
DON'T THINK BAD OF ME.
ドサ
SFX THUMP
SFX CRACKLE

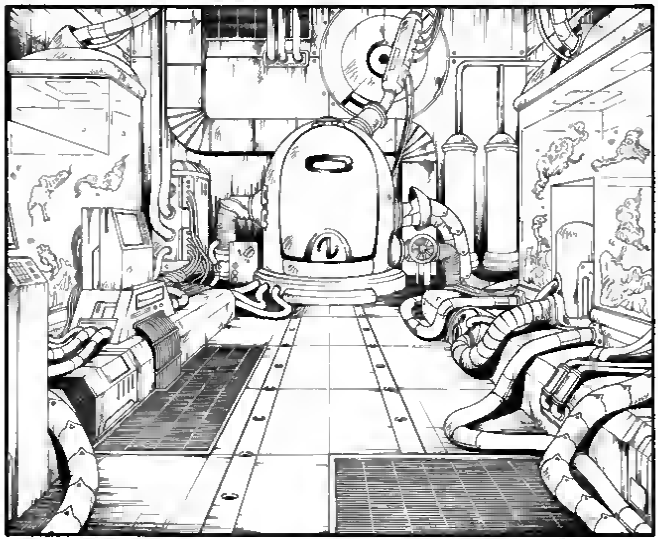
IT'S TIME FOR YOUR BREAK

SFX: BEEP
ピ
カシャ
SFX: CLICK
ピ
ピ
SFX: BEEP BEEP

I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK THERE
I DON'T WANT TO BE ON THE BED ANYMORE
NANA ...
NANA ...!?
...NA ...
カシャ

EVEN IF NANA WERE TO BE HERE IT WAS IN THE PAST
SHE DIED 14 YEARS AGO...
WHAT WAS I EXPECTING
...
...HOW STUPID
I KILLED HER WITH MY OWN HANDS...
THAT'S RIGHT

IT WAS ALREADY DECIDED THAT SHE WOULD BECOME LIKE THAT
YOU RELEASED HER FROM THE SUFFERING
IT'S NOT SOMETHING TO BE ASHAMED OF
...WHAT'S WRONG, WHY DO YOU CRY?
SOB
SOB
I DIDN'T COME HERE FROM SHAME
THERE'S ANOTHER ROOM
BUT I SHOULD HAVE THE RIGHT TO KNOW ABOUT NANA
---YES
I DECIDED NOT TO BE ASHAMED ANYMORE



WHAT ARE YOU DOING, SUDOU-KUN?!
IT'S AGAINST THE RULES TO TURN YOUR PHONE OFF
ERROR CODE 04. THIS PHONE DOES NOT CONNECT
SFX SLAM
CODE 045 IS AN UNLISTED FACILITY OWNED BY THE BOARD OF DIREC-TORS.
EVEN I CAN'T PUT MY HANDS ON IT.
WHAT'S IN THIS OLD HOSPITAL IN THE MOUN-TAINS?
SFX RING
DID HE. .?

YES, LAB ROOM...
---- WHAT?
... YES
THAT'S DEFINITELY SUIDOU FROM MANAGE-MENT OFFICE
... YES, MOST LIKELY...
SFX: CHUMH
...!?
I UNDERSTAND
IS THAT REALLY OKAY WITH YOU?

THESE ARE .. CELLS OF THE CHIMAIRA .!?
カツ
カツ
A HIDDEN EXPERIMENTAL FACILITY IN THE BASEMENT OF A RUNDOWN HOSPITAL
TSK, THERE'S A LOCK ON IT.
BEEP
SFX CLACK CLACK

IN A HIDDEN PLACE LIKE THIS !?
WHAT KIND OF EXPERIMENT WAS DONE
WHOA
SFX WOOF
ガッ
SFX TWIST

!!

NANA
...!?
NANA'S BODY!?
WH
WHY...
NO THIS IS...
WHY IN A PLACE LIKE THIS?
SFX: CLACK

...AH...
I.....

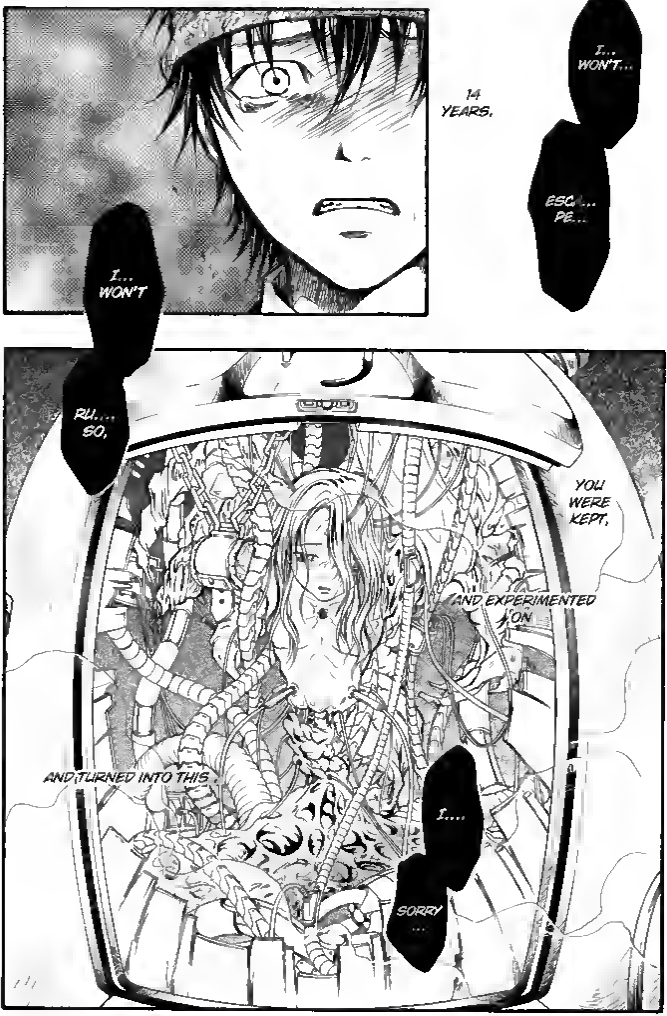
...IT...
ハハ
D。。

IT'S..
AL... ALIVE ...!?
AM I WATCHING A DREAM...!?
THIS IS IMPOSSIBLE

NUMBER 7 DIED.
AT THAT TIME----...
BECAUSE OF YOU,

THE BULLET HOLE FROM MY SHOT...
NANA?
IS IT REALLY YOU...
SPK SPK

THIS IS DEFINITELY NANA...
NANA WASN'T DEAD!!
YOU WERE TAKEN BY THE ASSOCIATION AFTER THAT
ARE YOU SAYING YOU WERE KEPT IN A PLACE LIKE THIS FOR 14 YEARS ?
... NO...
TES... TING...
IT...
HU...TS ...


I... WON'T...
14 YEARS.
ESCA... PE...
I... WON'T
RU... SO,
YOU WERE KEPT,
AND EXPERIMENTED ON
AND TURNED INTO THIS
I....
SORRY ...

WHO DID THESE HORRIBLE THINGS TO YOU...?
NANA--
DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM?
...UH
...UH
...
YE.
YES, YOU'RE RIGHT, IT'S HIROMI, NANA...
...FINALLY...
...
...ROMI...
POOR THING.

SFX: SPLASH

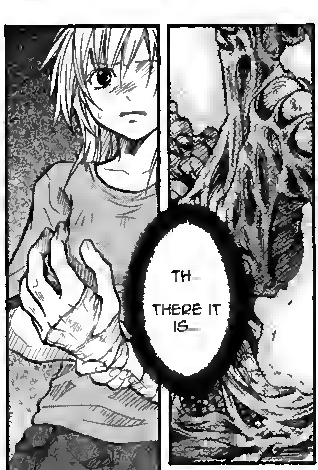
SFX: HELICOPTER

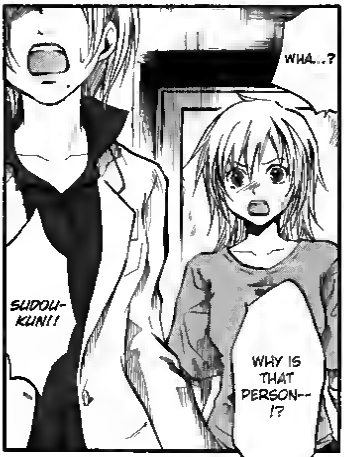
HURRY UP, AIKO-SAN!
YE... YES ...
SFX: WHOOSH
UM...IS THERE REALLY A CHIMERA IN THIS PLACE ...?
YES.
GET RID OF IT AS SOON AS WE FIND IT!
--- YES...
IT'S WEIRD ..

IT'S DIFFERENT FROM USUAL.
THAT PERSON ISN'T HERE AND...
I GUESS I'M FIGHTING ALONE TODAY.
WE'RE GOING
AIKO-SAN--
YOU'LL DIE IF YOU DON'T CONCENTRATE.

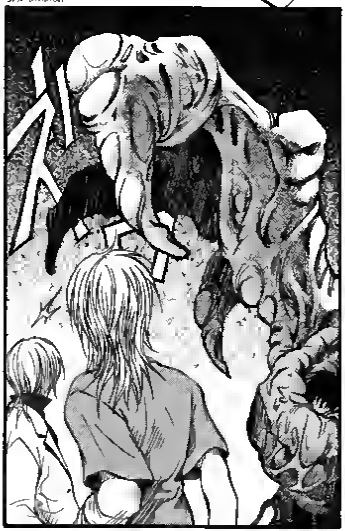
SFX: RAH

WHERE'S SUDOU-KUN!?
WHAT!?


TH...
THERE IT IS...

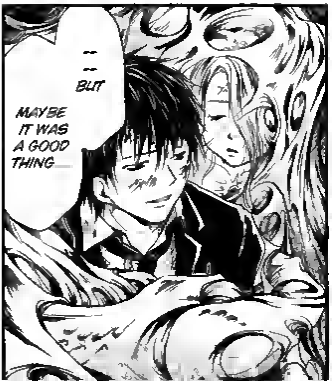


SEX STRETCH



SFX: BAM
WHA
IT CAN'T BE HELPED AIKO-SAN
WE WILL TAKE PRIORITY OF DEFEATING THE CHIMERA
BUT THEN THAT PERSON WILL...
SFX: RAOOOH

.....
AIKO
..?
WHY IS SHE HERE..?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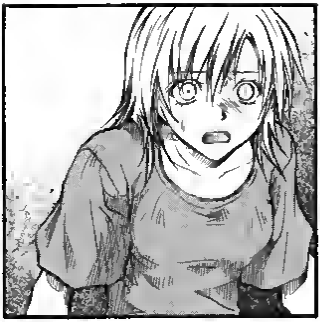
BUT
MAYBE IT WAS A GOOD THING...

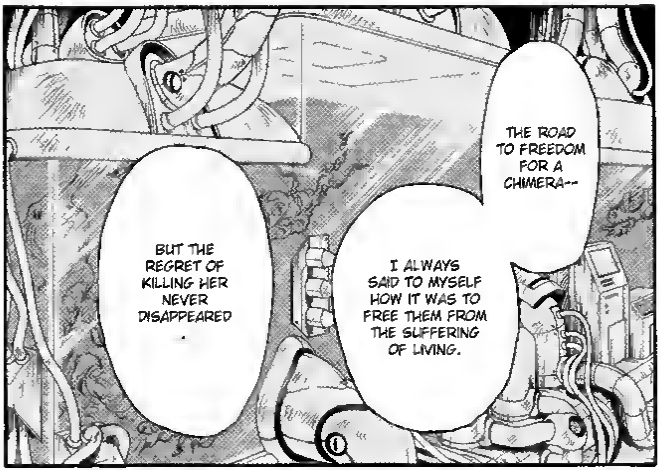


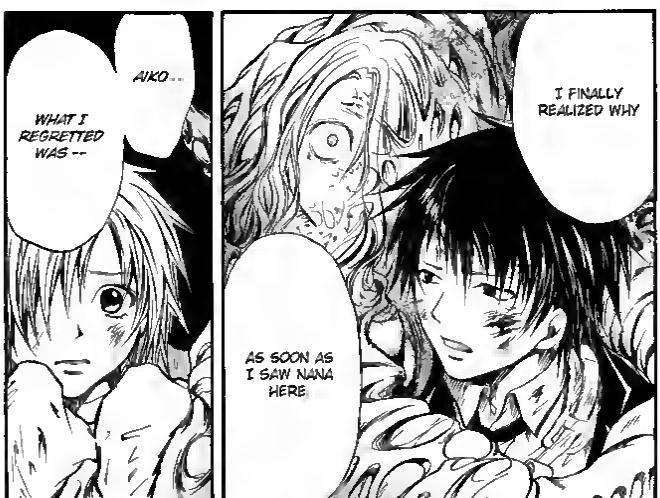
WHAT SHOULD I DO?
BUT IF THIS CONTINUES HE'LL BE TAKEN IN BY THE CHIMERA.
IF I FIGHT WITH THIS LEFT ARM, I'LL HIT HIM.
SFX: SQUEEZE
WHAT SHOULD I...?
SFX: WHOOSH
AIKO!
SFX: SLAM

THA... TS...
A... LL...
WHAT ARE YOU DOING AIKO-SAN!?
FIGHT!!
DON'T
UGH
SFX: SLITHER
WI... TH
HIRO ...AN

GAH
STOP IT NANA!!
AIKO, FORGET ABOUT ME ...
JUST KILL ME ALONG WITH HER...!!
KILL...?

WHY DO YOU SAY THAT...?
WH...Y ...?
... WH...?
!
...DO YOU WANT TO DIE?
HER NAME IS NANA.
14 YEARS AGO...
...WHEN SHE TURNED INTO A CHIMERA
I KILLED HER BECAUSE I WANTED TO SAVE MYSELF.
BUT NANA WAS ALIVE.
SHE BECAME A GUINEA PIG AND SUFFERED HERE


THE ROAD TO FREEDOM FOR A CHIMERA--
I ALWAYS SAID TO MYSELF HOW IT WAS TO FREE THEM FROM THE SUFFERING OF LIVING.
BUT THE REGRET OF KILLING HER NEVER DISAPPEARED


I FINALLY REALIZED WHY
AS SOON AS I SAW NANA HERE
AIKO...
WHAT I REGRETTED WAS --

NOT BEING ABLE TO SAVE HER OR FREE HER.
AND THE FACT I SACRIFICED HER FOR MY OWN LIFE AND LIVED.
I WAS POWERLESS
I WANT YOU TO RELEASE HER FROM THE PAIN FOR ME.
IF I DIE HERE, THEN IT'S MY FATE.
The feeling of doing something bad towards living —
I know that feeling, too
But...
Shi
Day

SO WHAT ABOUT "FATE"!!
WH.
AT ABOUT ...?
SFX PUSH
SFX CRUSH
ARE YOU GOING
TO RUIN!?
AIKO..!?

SFX: GRAB
SFX: JUMP
WHAT ARE YOU DOING, AIKO..!?
HURRY

SFX: RAM
HURRY AND GRAB...

SFX: GRAB
MM
GUH
AIKO!!
SFX: SWING
SFX: STRETCH
SFX: GRAB

Who said that
I have to "LIVE"!?
SFX: JUMP
SFX: GRAB
I thought there was meaning to living
even if you have to cry or beg!?

WHA
ERG
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE, AIKO-SAN!
SFX: SNK
スーッ

SFX: WHOOSH
STOP, AIKO!
IF YOU DO THIS, YOU MIGHT ..
AIKO....!!

Nooooo
SFX RIP

KILL
SFX: SPLAT

ゴト
SFX: THUMP

SFX: TRIBLE

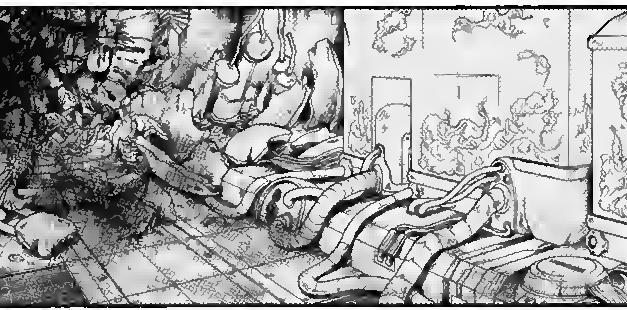
SFX MOVES

I'LL BE ALONE AGAIN...
IF YOU'RE NOT HERE
I...
THAT'S WHY,
I'M ABLE TO BE... HERE...

SO DON'T SAY YOU DON'T CARE IF YOU DIE...
...WHAT ---?
WHAT AM I
DOING...?

I WAS

ABOUT TO
RUN AGAIN.



THE SCHEDULE'S BEEN CHANGED .
NOW
SFX CLOSE
SEND THE TRANS-PORTERS OVER.
---YES, BY HELICOPTER
--- AND HURRY
NANA
I ALSO WANTED TO BE FREE
LIKE A BIRD

I'M SORRY, NANA.

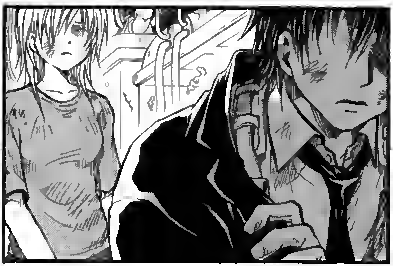
I'LL SHOW MY WINGS TO HIROMI-KUN!
THEY'RE GOING TO BECOME GREAT WINGS.
I DON'T WANT TO GO BACK THERE.
THA
NK
YOU
I DON'T WANT THE RED ANYMORE.
I CAN'T FLY WITH THIS...

I LIVED AGAIN
ポロ
ポロ

BUT
I WON'T REGRET ANYMORE
グッ

-----YEAH
THERE'S
STILL THINGS TO DO.

Watch me, Nanu.
SFX: CRUSH
SFX: RIP



LET'S GO, AIKO
...IS IT OKAY NOW...?

Snow Kiss & Maximum 7

#SNOW-KISS@IRCHISHWAY
WWW.SNOW-KISS.NET

#MAXIMUM7@IRCHISHWAY
WWW.MAXIMUM7.NET

present

Variante

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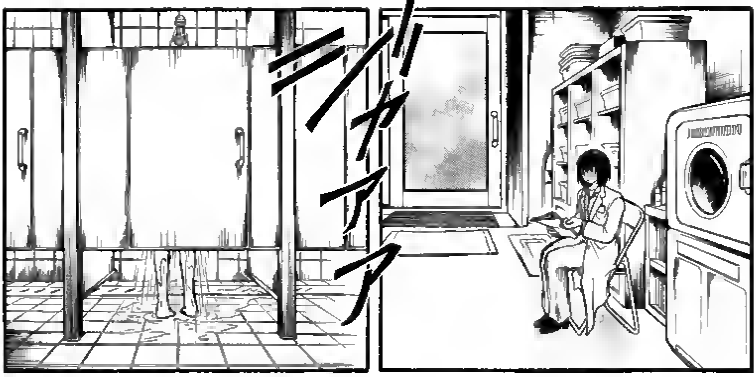
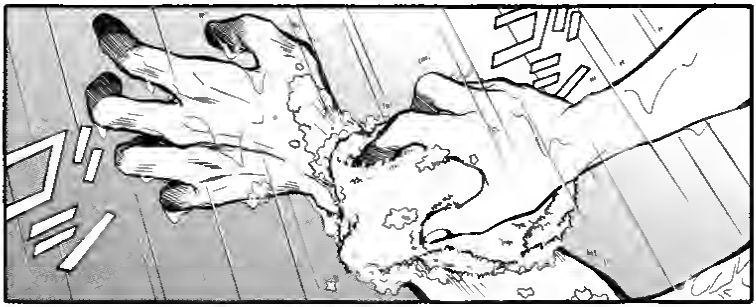

ニンフォア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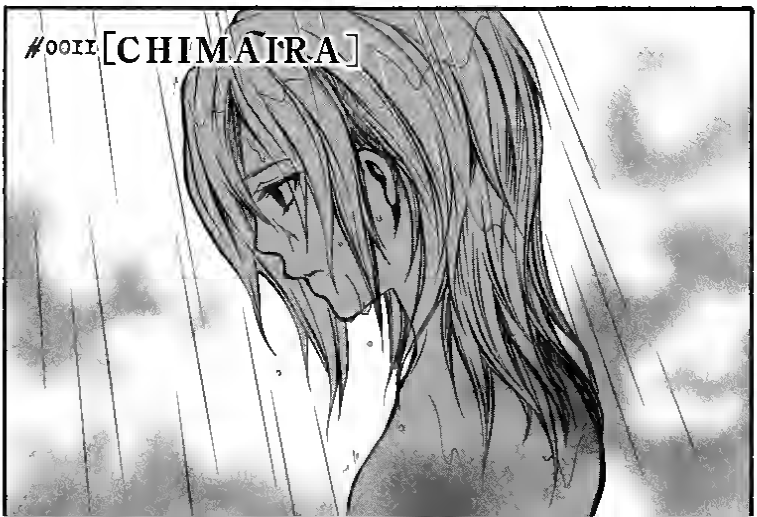
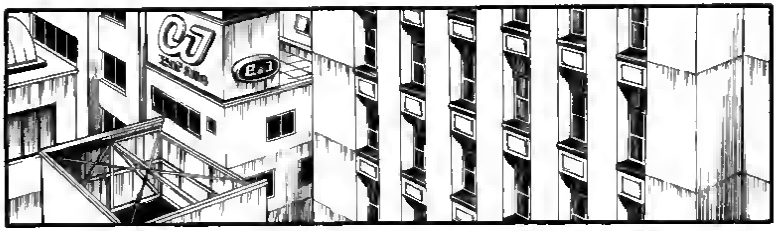

#0011[CHIMAIRA]

Atheos tells me that Chimaira are the enemy.
...IT STILL STINKS.
So that's what I believed
What are Chimaira--?
But...
He said he fights
To save them
Just what have I been killing...?

O... OKAY! I'LL BE OUT RIGHT AWAY!
TIME'S UP, AIKO-SAN!!
I JUST HAVE TO DO AS I'M TOLD!!
NO! I CAN'T KEEP THINKING LIKE THIS!
HE'S HERE AFTER ALL...
IF I CAN STAY HERE
I WON'T BE ALONE.

#0011
[CHIMAIRA]



YOUR LAPDOG'S DISIPLINARY TRAINING DOESN'T SEEM TO BE GOING WELL, DOES IT, MR. OKUDA?
...FORGIVE ME.
IT APPEARS THAT SOMEONE LEAKED HIM THE INFORMATION ON THEIR OWN
TRYING TO SHIRK THE RESPONSIBILITY?
BEING LAX ON DISCIPLINE IS THE FAULT OF THE MASTER

THE PUBLIC IS STILL UNAWARE.
I THINK IT'S BEST WE SIMPLY ASSURE THAT NOTHING FURTHER IS LEAKED.
IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE!!

HOUSHOU AIKO...
!?
...THEN WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE ME DO?
WE LOST PRECIOUS RESEARCH MATERIAL!!
THAT I CAN'T DO.
THERE IS SIMPLY NO WAY FOR US TO CAPTURE CHIMAIRA WITHOUT HER.
....HM
WHAT WOULD YOU SAY TO BRINGING HER BY MY RESEARCH CENTER?
THE GIRL YOU'RE KEEPING AT YOUR LAB ..
THERE'S A GREAT INTEREST IN HER AMONG THE BOARD.

VERY WELL, WE'LL JUST CONTINUE AS IS.
RECOVERY OF THE CHIMAIRA IS OUR TOP PRIORITY.
WELCOME BACK, MR REPRESENTATIVE
WHAT DID HE SAY?

I'LL KEEP HAVING HIM WORK FOR US.
.....
SO WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO NOW?
"DON'T BE LAX ON YOUR LAPDOG'S DISIPLINE."
NATURALLY I HAVE NO INTENTION OF DOING THAT.
SHE IS OUR TRUMP CARD.
I WAS TOLD TO HAND OVER THE CHIMAIRA GIRL AS WELL...
HOUSHOU AIKO?

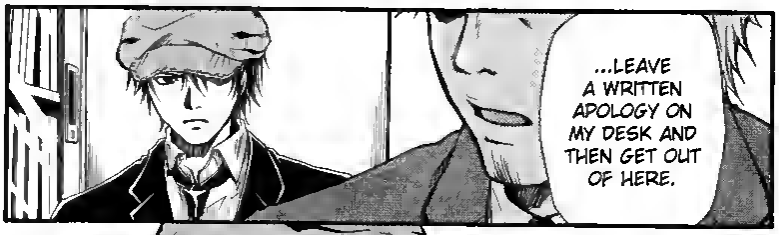
資料室
YOU'VE BEEN GETTING UP TO QUITE A BIT ON YOUR OWN, HAVEN'T YOU, SUDOU?
I'LL TAKE CARE OF IT.
JUST WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO DO, MAKING THIS BIG OF A MESS?
MISS KOCHIGAWA GAVE THIS TO ME. YOU LEFT IT BEHIND.

SCREW THAT THING!!
パシッ
...TCH.
I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THE ORGANIZATION IS THINKING.
SUDOU...
SAME GOES FOR THE CHIEF.
AND FOR YOU.
YOU LIED TO ME.

I DIDN'T LIE TO YOU.
YOU TOLD ME NANA WAS DEAD!
YOU SAID THAT TO ME, DIDN'T YOU!?
BUT REALLY... SHE WAS...
IT WAS TRUE THAT NO.7'S HEART HAD STOPPED.
I WAS JUST AN INVESTIGATOR. I HAD NO IDEA WHAT THEY DID WITH HER AFTER THEY TOOK HER AWAY.
EVEN IF I HAD KNOWN, I DOUBT THEY WOULD'VE LET ME TELL ANYBODY.
BUT ANYWAY, SUDOU, WHERE DID YOU GET THAT INFORMATION?
LIKE I'D TELL YOU!
YOU'RE THE ONES WHO ACT HIGH AND MIGHTY, ASK ME WHAT I KNOW AND THEN TELL ME NOTHING!

!?
THAT'S IT?
WE'RE PLACING YOU UNDER HOUSE ARREST FOR A WHILE
SUDOU
VIOLATING STANDBY ORDERS
THAT'S YOUR CRIME, AT LEAST ON THE OUTSIDE.
NOT TAKING THE BLAME FOR NANA, HUH
THAT'S ALL THERE IS TO IT.
1994.6~12
UNTIL THIS IS ALL TAKEN CARE OF, YOU'RE NOT ALLOWED IN HERE
THE SAME GOES FOR THE LAB, OF COURSE.
I GUESS HE DOESN'T WANT ME POKING AROUND

THERE'S NO "NEXT TIME" FOR YOU.
ATHEOS IS WORSE THAN YOU THINK IT IS. DON'T FORGET THAT.


...LEAVE A WRITTEN APOLOGY ON MY DESK AND THEN GET OUT OF HERE.

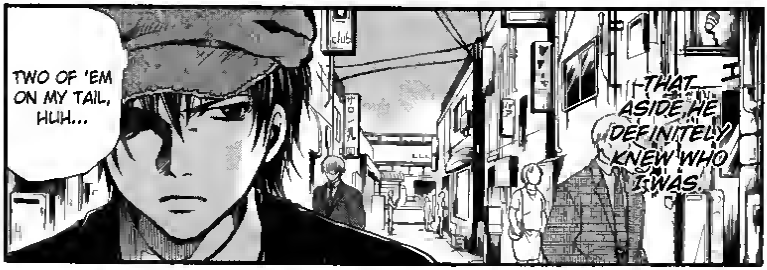
...WORSE?
パタン

I GUESS THAT WAS "A MISTAKE."
I'VE DECIDED, THOUGH.
グシャ
電車がきます
I'M GOING TO EXPOSE THE ORGANIZATION'S TRUE NATURE, NO MATTER WHAT...!

I'LL BET THEY INTEND TO JUST LEAVE ME OUT OF IT WHILE THEY LOOK FOR THE INFORMANT.

1
THE DOOR IS CLOSING.
RUNNING FOR THE TRAIN IS DANGEROUS SO PLEASE REFRAIN FROM DOING SO.
I'LL BE HEADING TO THE INN BY THE USUAL ROUTE

UNFORTUNATELY, I HAVE NO WAY OF CONTACTING HIM.

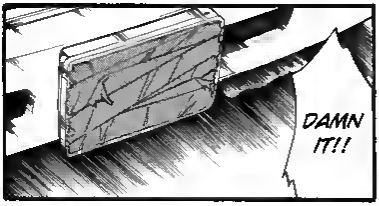

TWO OF 'EM ON MY TAIL, HUH...
THAT ASIDE, HE DEFINITELY KNEW WHO I WAS.

...WHAT SHOULD I DO... RUN FOR IT?

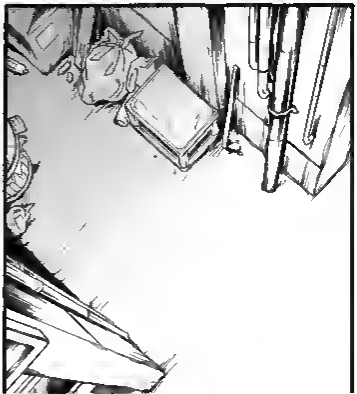
WHA...
!?

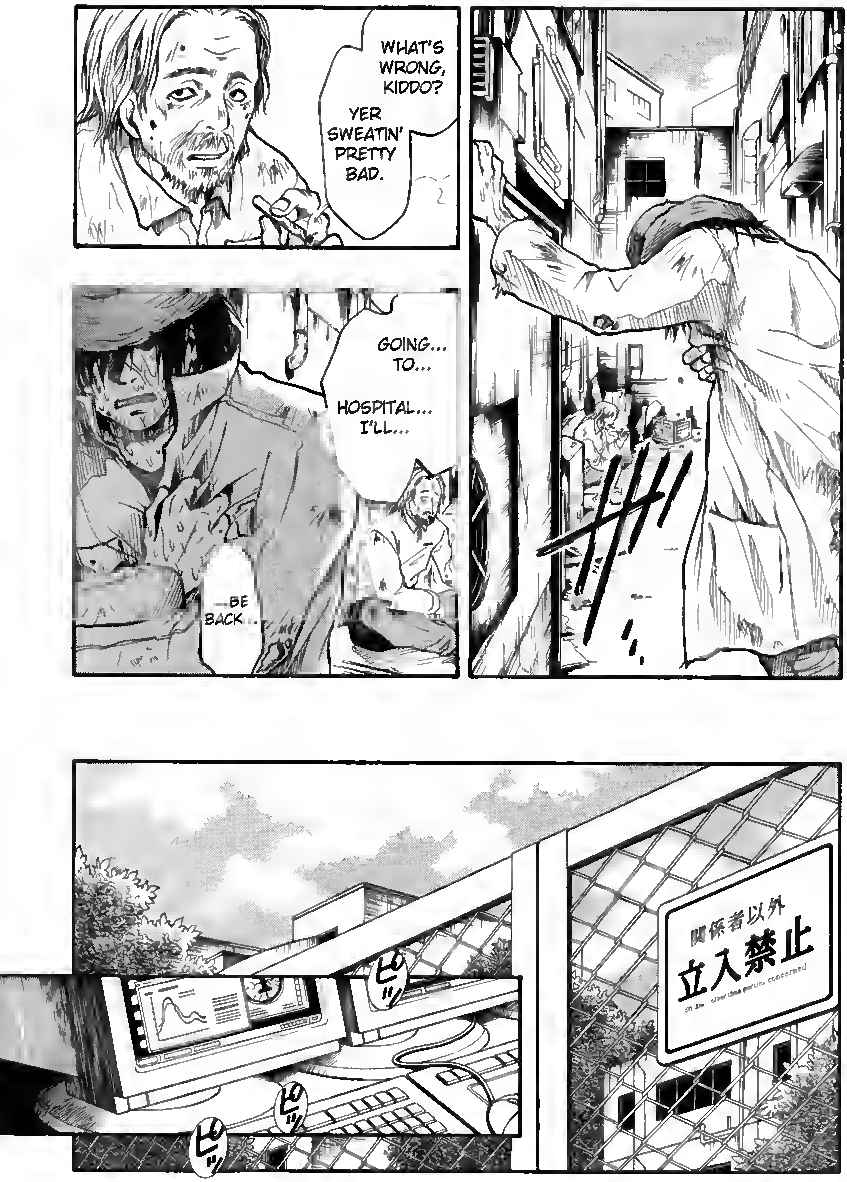
フウウ

SHIT!
AFTER HIM!


DAMN IT!!

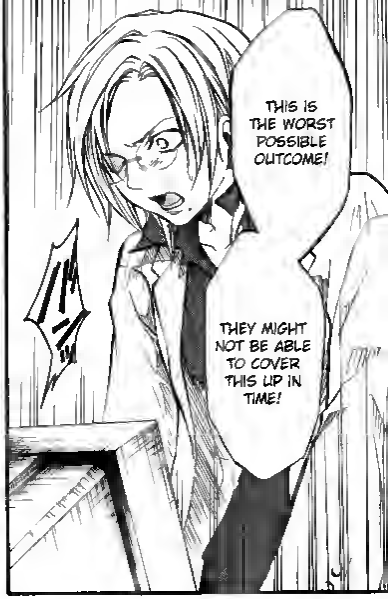
…TCH
WE NEED TO HURRY!
I'LL RADIO HQ!

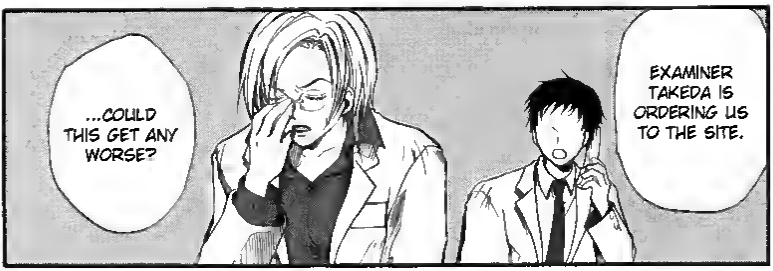



WHAT'S WRONG, KIDDO?
YER SWEATIN' PRETTY BAD.
GOING... TO...
HOSPITAL... I'LL...
—BE BACK...
関係者以外
立入禁止
ピ
ピ
ピ

THEY DON'T EVEN TELL ME IF THEY FIND ANYTHING.
I'M SICK OF GETTING TESTED WHENEVER I HAVE FREE TIME...
...SHE'S A LITTLE BIT ANEMIC, IT LOOKS LIKE
THERE'S A DEFINITE DISPERSION IN HER BLOOD.
I WONDER IF IT'S A CONCENTRATION IN HER LEFT ARM...
SWITCHING TO CYMOGRAPH
WE HAVE A CODE B IN WARD 2!
WHAT!?
IT'S THE CIVILIAN FACILITY!
MONITOR CONNECTED
AT PRESENT, FIVE CONFIRMED DEAD, 23 INJURED.
A TEAM IS CURRENTLY GUIDING SURVIVORS TO SAFETY.

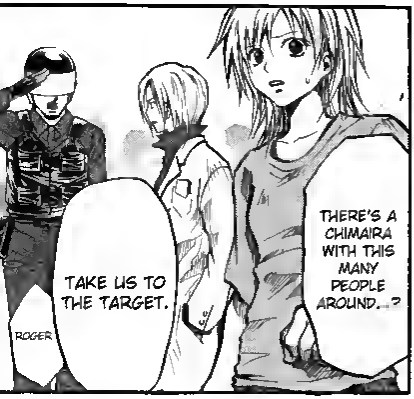
WHATEVER! JUST HURRY UP AND SEND OUT THAT CHIMAIRA GIRL!!

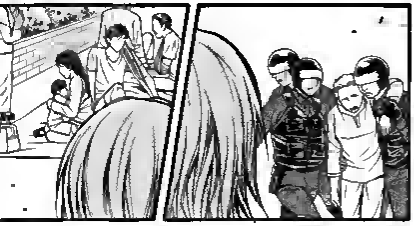

THIS IS THE WORST POSSIBLE OUTCOME!
THEY MIGHT NOT BE ABLE TO COVER THIS UP IN TIME!

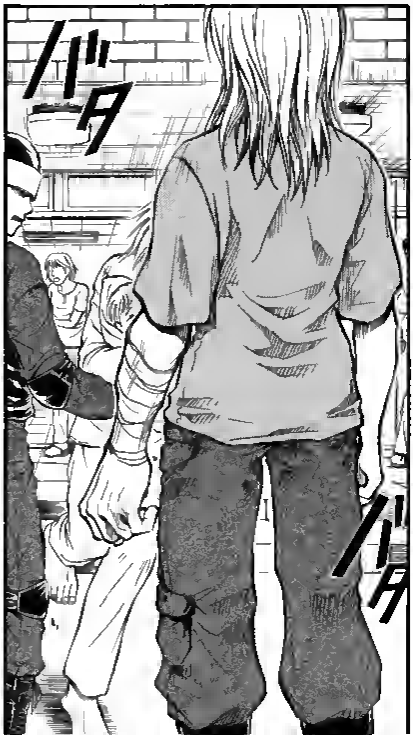

...COULD THIS GET ANY WORSE?
EXAMINER TAKEDA IS ORDERING US TO THE SITE.

立入禁止

FORGET ABOUT THE PATIENTS ON THE UPPER FLOORS!
BARRICADE THIS FLOOR ALONE!
DON'T MISS ANY OF THE WINDOWS, EITHER!


THERE'S A CHIMAIRA WITH THIS MANY PEOPLE AROUND...?
TAKE US TO THE TARGET.
ROGER





RIGHT NOW WE HAVE TO HURRY!
...IF IT'S SUDOU-KUN YOU MEAN, HE'LL BE HERE LATER.
HM?
IS HE COMING...?
IS...
.....
O... OKAY!
THIS WAY!
ゴク...
RESCUING ANY SURVIVORS IS DEPENDENT ON YOUR SUCCESS. WE'LL OPEN THE DOOR FOR YOU, SO PLEASE KEEP THAT IN MIND!
THE TARGET IS SHUT IN BEHIND THIS FIRE DOOR.

I HAVE TO DO THIS...!
I UNDER-STAND.
I WON'T LET THERE BE ANY MORE VICTIMS.
WHA...

HAH
HAH
...HUH...?

I'M GOING... INSANE...
WHA...
WHAT?
UAH... AH... AHHH
AH
COULD THIS BE...
IT... HURTS...
NO...
HEY, MONSTER WOMAN!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?

HURRY UP AND KILL THAT THING!
DO YOU WANT THERE TO BE MORE VICTIMS!?
W... WAIT,
HE'S...
ビグン
ISN'T HE A HUMAN!?
MY BODY...
ビグン
HE... LP... ME...
MY... BODY...

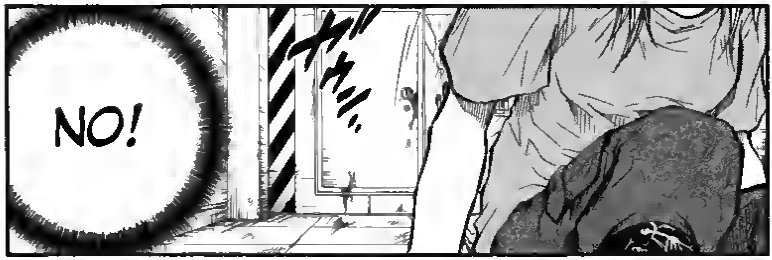
MY BODY... IS HOT...
IT HURTS...
I'M... FIPPING APART...
He's changing
AH
HAH
From a human... into...
YES,
BUT HE'S ALSO A CHIMAIRA.

A Chimaira
HE'S NOT A HUMAN ANYMORE.

From a human into...
WHAT'S WRONG?
HURRY!

HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE I KILLED?
I...

I WAS JUST...
...DOING AS I WAS TOLD...
THIS IS THE LAST SURVIVOR!
ALRIGHT, LET'S GO!


NO!

I MUST HAVE REALIZED IT...
I KNEW ALL ALONG, BUT...!
I DIDN'T WANT TO ACKNOWLEDGE IT.

NO...
IT'S NO USE...
...AH
I CAN'T DO THIS ANYMORE!

I DON'T WANT TO FIGHT ANYMORE
I'M... NOT A MONSTER!
I DON'T WANT TO KILL PEOPLE ANYMORE!!
NO MORE!
NO MORE!!
OPEN THE DOOR, PLEASE...!
LET ME OUT!!

SAVE ME...
SUDOU-SAN...
SUDOU-SAN...!!

MAXIMUMSEVEN
EDITOR:
EXILEDVIP3R
TRANSLATOR:
FOSSKERS
RAW:
ASAKURA
QUALITY-CHECK:
MGVIPERMAN
WWW.MAXIMUM.NET
IRC.IRCHIGHWAY.NET #MAXIMUM

I DON'T WANNA KILL PEOPLE ...!!
I'M NOT... A MON-STER ...!
...SU-DO-SAN...
HELP ME...
SU-DO-SAN ...
#0012 [THE END OF DESPAIR]

NOBODY TOLD ME...
...THAT THE CHIMERAS WERE HUMANS!
GIVE
HOW MANY PEOPLE HAVE I KILLED SO FAR...?!
BIIII

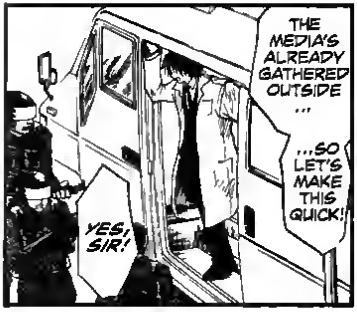
I WON'T DO THIS ANY-MORE ...!!
I WON'T!
SPLAT
SPLAT
SPLOOSH
BAM
AIKO-SAN, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
THIS IS ONLY A GUESS, BUT...
...THAT TIME SHE AT LEAST STILL HAD THE WILL TO FIGHT.
THIS DOESN'T LOOK GOOD FOR HER ...
IF SHE'D FLIP OUT LIKE THAT TIME IN THE SUBWAY, SHE'D PROBABLY HAVE A FIGHTING CHANCE, BUT...
...I DON'T THINK SO.

RIGHT NOW, SHE'S COMPLETELY LOST HER FIGHTING SPIRIT.
IN FACT, SHE DOESN'T WANT TO WIN...
HUGH
UU UHHHH ...
THUD
WHIZZZ

I THINK IT'S TIME TO PULL UP STAKES ...
DOCTOR !
...
...
AGENT TAKEDA.
ARE THE CIVILIANS EVACUATED?
THEY'RE ALL OUT AND THE TROOPS ARE ON STANDBY.
I CAN'T AFFORD TO LOSE HER NOW!..
LOOKS LIKE THERE'S NO OTHER WAY.
SHRIK

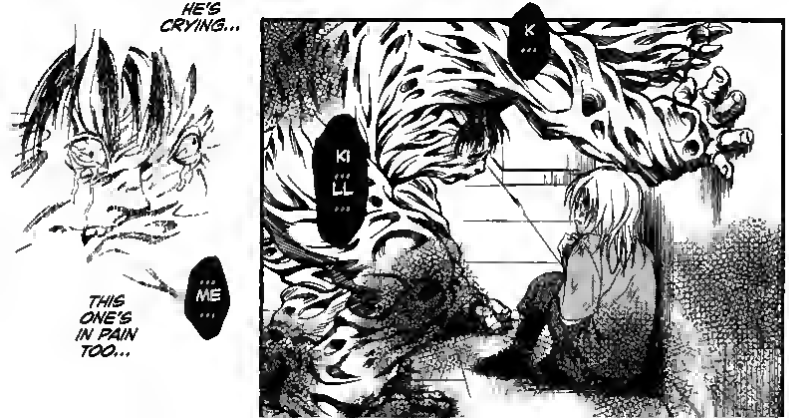
PFFT!
IF YOU'D HAVE DONE THAT FROM THE GET-GO, WE WOULDN'T BE IN THIS MESS.

I'M GIVING YOU ON-SITE COMMAND, AGENT TAKEDA.
USE MILITARY STRENGTH TO WIPE OUT THE CHIMERA.


THE MEDIA'S ALREADY GATHERED OUTSIDE ...
...SO LET'S MAKE THIS QUICK!
YES, SIR!

ARE YOU CERTAIN ABOUT THIS AIKO-SAN?
YOUR VALUE AS A MILITARY WEAPON ...
...IS THE ONLY THING KEEPING YOU ALIVE.

BAM


HE'S CRYING...
...ME...
THIS ONE'S IN PAIN TOO...
KI...LL...
K...

KILL ...
...ME...
...THEN GO ON AND KEEP KILLING CHIMERAS...?
WHY? DO I HAVE TO KILL YOU..
LIVE MY LIFE...
...I'M SORRY ...
...KILLING PEOPLE?!
I CAN'T DO IT...
...ANY-MORE.

FWOOMP
IT'S IMPOS-SIBLE ...!!
WHAT'S THE MEANING OF THIS LIFE...?!?

SLAM
AIKO-SAN !!
WHUD
FLING

I'M SURE IT'LL BE EASIER THIS WAY...
SLIDE
MAYBE I'LL JUST DIE LIKE THIS...
ONLY BAD THING IS...I DIDN'T WANT TO DIE IN PAIN...
BUT I CAN TAKE IT...
...THE PAIN WON'T LAST LONG ANYWAY.
COME TO THINK OF IT, I DIED ONCE BEFORE.
I GUESS, I CAN DO IT AGAIN.

DRIP
THUMP
?!
THUMP

SPLAT
FSSSST
WHA...
GYAAA!
WHAT'S GOING ON?!

SPLOOSH
D...
DON'T ....!
FSSST

KRAK
NO ON ...
HEH ...
THIS TIME, MORE THAN EVER BEFORE...

AH HH ...
...I FEEL THE SPLASH OF WARM BLOOD ON MY GARGANTUAN FIST...
...HEAR THE SICK CRUNCH OF BONES COLLAPSING UNDER PULVERIZED MEAT...
GU AA A ...
...AND A VOICE, CRYING OUT IN ANGUISH...

DROOP
SPLAT

...!
NO
...
NO
OO
...

STOP IT!

WHIRRRRRRRR

WHIRRR

WHIRRR
WHA...
BLOOD ?!
OOZE
WHAT HAPPENED IN THERE ...?!
UUHHH...
WHUD
AGENT TAKEDA, DESCRIBE TO ME WHAT'S GOING ON IN THERE!
THE CHIMERA WAS DESTROYED BY AIKO HOSHO...
...BUT...

...BUT SHE'S ...

AH! A MILITARY-TYPE VEHICLE HAS JUST PULLED AWAY...
SIGHHH...
WE'RE TOLD THAT THE DEAD HAVE BEEN TAKEN OUT, BUT THE MAN THOUGHT TO BE THE KILLER IS STILL IN THE HOSPITAL
THE ENTIRE AREA IS STRICTLY CORDONED OFF AND ATTEMPTS BY MEDIA CHANNELS TO GET A LOOK INSIDE THE HOSPITAL HAVE BEEN MET WITH SHARP REBUFFS.
HEY, THEY'RE REPORTING LIVE...
...and it's all bs!
GET ME A SLICE OF THAT MAYO AND CORN PIZZA WHILE YOU'RE UP, YEAH?
WE'VE LEARNED THAT ARMED FORCES HAVE BEEN MOBILIZED...
OWW...
KA-CHA
DAMMIT!!!
RATTLE
SKREEEE
I REMEMBER A VAN PULLING UP IN FRONT OF ME...
CRAP.
...WWW...
CREAK

WHERE AM I...?
LOOKS LIKE A VERY CALCULATED CRIME...
...AND IF I DON'T MISS MY GUESS, THE PERP...
FLASH

WHA ...?
WHO THE HELL ARE THEY ...?
YU-CHAN, YOUR GUEST WOKE UP!
TAK
OKAY, YOU TWO.
HI THERE!
YOU SURE SLEPT LONG ENOUGH.
WANT SOME PIZZA?
THAT VOICE ...!
YEAH, YEAH
GET YOUR ASSES IN THERE!

...YOU GONNA TELL ME WHO YOU ARE NOW?!
THE NAME'S YUJIRO SERA.
I'M JUST A JOURNALIST.
HE'S THE GUY THAT PASSED ME THE INFO ABOUT NANA ...!!
HERE ...
RUSTLE
YOU'RE A BRAVE MAN TO COME HERE ALONE, SUDO-KUN.
WAS MY INFORMATION USEFUL... ...SUDO-KUN?

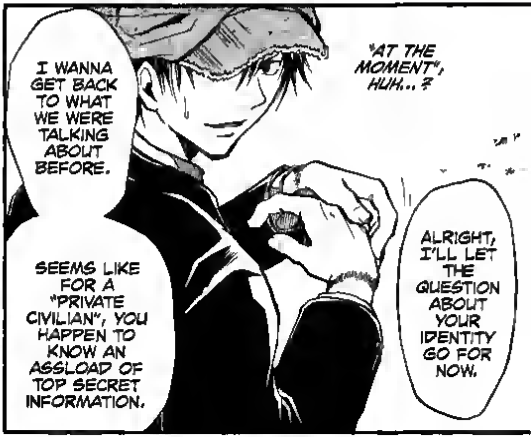
HAHAHA! ARE YOU ALWAYS THIS SERIOUS?
WHY DON'T YOU CUT THE SHIT?!
"JUST A JOURNALIST" STALKS A GUY THEN TOPS IT OFF BY KIDNAPPING HIM.
HOW MANY YEARS IN JAIL YOU FIGURE THAT WORKS OUT TO?
I APOLOGIZE FOR THE ROUGH TREATMENT...
...BUT IT SEEMED TO BE THE MOST EXPEDIENT METHOD OF TALKING TO YOU WHEN YOU WERE BEING TAILED.
RELAX. I'M GOING TO LET YOU GO LONG BEFORE THEY CAN TRACE YOU BACK HERE...
...BUT AFTER I GIVE YOU A THOROUGH BRAINWASHING.
...?
...?
HUH. YOU HELP A GUY PULL A KIDNAPPING, YOU THINK HE'D BE GRATEFUL...
...
...
NEVER MIND THEM. THOSE KIDS ARE JUST MY ROOMMATES, I KINDA TAKE CARE OF THEM.
YU-CHAN, NO WAY IS HE GONNA TRUST YOU IF YOU TALK ABOUT BRAINWASHING AND STUFF!
SHUT UP AND EAT YOUR PIZZA... IN THE OTHER ROOM!

YEAH, BUT NOT ONES THAT WERE UNDER SURVEIL-LANCE BY ATHEOS...
YOU MEAN THEY'VE BEEN ATTACKED BY A CHIMERA BEFORE ...?!
...SO I HAD TO HELP THEM MYSELF.
opaque

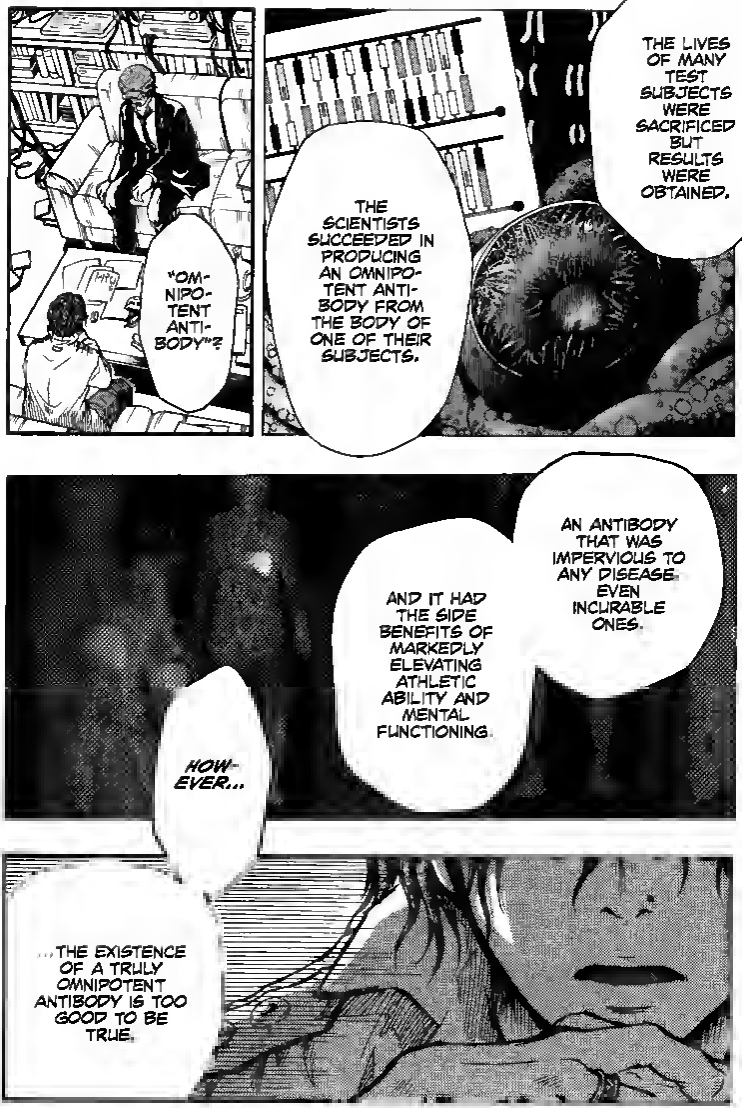
THEY HAVE FIRSTHAND EXPERIENCE WITH CHIMERAS.

YEP.
AT THE MOMENT, I'M JUST A PRIVATE CIVILIAN.
KA-CHA.
YOU SURE YOU'RE JUST A...?

I AM WELL IN-FORMED ...
WHERE SHALL WE BEGIN?
FROM NANA!
WHAT CHANGED HER INTO THAT... THAT THING?!


I WANNA GET BACK TO WHAT WE WERE TALKING ABOUT BEFORE.
SEEMS LIKE FOR A "PRIVATE CIVILIAN", YOU HAPPEN TO KNOW AN ASSLOAD OF TOP SECRET INFORMATION.
"AT THE MOMENT", HUH...?
ALRIGHT, I'LL LET THE QUESTION ABOUT YOUR IDENTITY GO FOR NOW.

UH-UH, I'M NOT GONNA BE FEEDING YOU INFORMATION HERE.
IF YOU REALLY KNOW WHAT YOU'RE TALKING ABOUT, LAY IT ON ME.
WHAT'S THAT HIDDEN FACILITY ABOUT?!
HOLD IT, HOLD IT.
ONE THING AT A TIME.
I'LL TRY TO EXPLAIN EVERYTHING IN ORDER.
FIRST, HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE GENESIS OF THE CHIMERAS?
CAUTIOUS MAN.
VERY WELL.
THE LAST TIME WE MET...
...I MENTIONED THE MYSTERIOUS EXPLOSION THAT HAPPENED AT A CERTAIN RESEARCH FACILITY 40 YEARS AGO.
MANY YEARS AND A GREAT DEAL OF THE NATIONAL BUDGET WERE SPENT THERE...
...FUNDING MEDICAL EXPERIMENTS ON GENETIC MANIPULATION.


"OMNIPOTENT ANTIBODY"?
THE SCIENTISTS SUCCEEDED IN PRODUCING AN OMNIPOTENT ANTIBODY FROM THE BODY OF ONE OF THEIR SUBJECTS.
THE LIVES OF MANY TEST SUBJECTS WERE SACRIFICED BUT RESULTS WERE OBTAINED.
AN ANTIBODY THAT WAS IMPERVIOUS TO ANY DISEASE. EVEN INCURABLE ONES.
AND IT HAD THE SIDE BENEFITS OF MARKEDLY ELEVATING ATHLETIC ABILITY AND MENTAL FUNCTIONING.
HOWEVER...
...THE EXISTENCE OF A TRULY OMNIPOTENT ANTIBODY IS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE.

THE CHIMERAS ...!
REJECTION THAT CAME IN THE FORM OF BODILY CHANGES AND VIOLENT BEHAVIOR. IN OTHER WORDS...
AND SO IT WENT THAT, AFTER A SHORT TIME, THE PATIENTS' BODIES WHICH WERE IMPLANTED WITH THE ANTIBODY SHOWED SIGNS OF REJECTION.
BEFORE THE SCIENTISTS AT THE INSTITUTE COULD DEVISE COUNTERMEASURES AGAINST THE SUDDEN THREAT, THE UNEXPLAINED EXPLOSION OCCURRED...
...AND SEVERAL TEST SUBJECTS ESCAPED.
FLASH-FORWARD 15 YEARS LATER...
PEOPLE SUSPECTED TO BE FORMER TEST SUBJECTS BEGAN TRANSFORMING INTO CHIMERAS...
...AND THE GOVERNMENT FOUNDED ATHEOS FOR THE SOLE PURPOSE OF RECOVERING THEM.
WELL, RECOVERING AND THEN BURYING THEM SO NO ONE'S THE WISER.
EVEN CHIMERA RESEARCH IS DONE TO GET A BETTER HANDLE ON HOW TO DESTROY THEM...
WHAT WAS THAT GIRL'S NAME... NANA?

BREEDING IMPROVE-MENT.
YOU SAW THE RESULT ...
...OF THE CRUEL-TIES THAT WERE INFLICTED ON HER, DIDN'T YOU?
YEAH ...
ALL THOSE YEARS I THOUGHT SHE WAS DEAD... WHAT WERE THEY TRYING TO...?

THE IDEA IS TO IMPROVE UPON THE MONSTERS THAT ARE RECOVERED...
...THEREBY PRODUCING CHIMERAS WHICH CAN SERVE AS SUPERIOR WEAPONS.
THIS IS WHAT THE UPPER ECHELON OF THE ORGANIZATION ...THE EXECUTIVE BOARD...IS WORKING ON IN SECRET.
IT CAN'T BE...
YOU SAID ...
...WEAPONS?
IF THAT'S TRUE...
...THEN WHAT THE HELL HAVE I BEEN WORKING FOR ALL THIS TIME?
THAT WOULD MAKE YOU ...
...AN EXPERIMENTAL MATERIALS PROCUREMENT SPECIALIST, I SUPPOSE.
THIS IS NO FRICKIN' JOKE!!
BIII

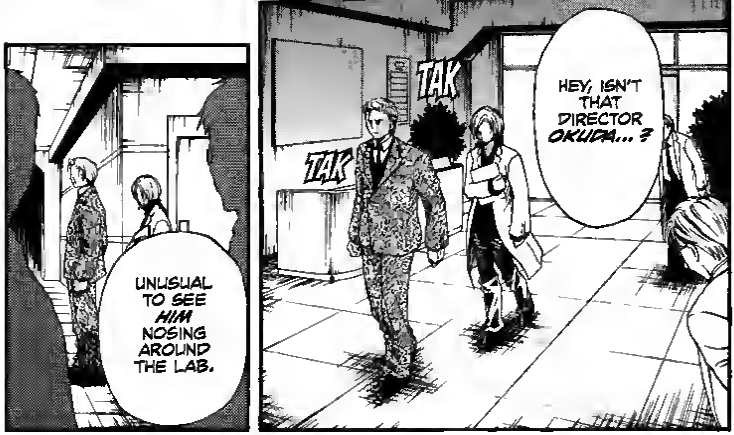
...
...
...
...CAN I BELIEVE?!
HOW MUCH OF YOUR STORY...
THAT'S ENTIRELY UP TO YOU.
BUT AT THE VERY LEAST, I THINK YOU'VE SEEN A BREEDING EXPERIMENT WITH YOUR OWN EYES.
THE TIME TO PLOT THE OVERTHROW OF THE ORGANIZATION HAS TO BE NOW...
...BECAUSE BY THE TIME THEY PERFECT THEIR "WEAPONS", IT'LL BE TOO LATE.

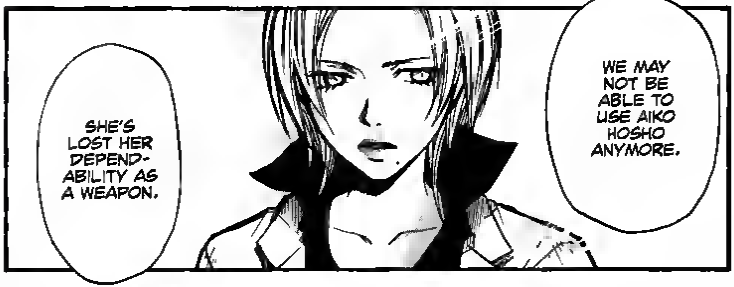
IS THAT...
...EVEN POSSIBLE?!
GULP
HE WANTS TO DESTROY ATHEOS ...?

THEY STOLE SOMETHING PRECIOUS FROM ME...
WHY ...
...ARE YOU SO OBSESSED WITH ATHEOS ANYWAY?
WHO'S THIS GIRL?
SOMETHING PRECIOUS?
ENOUGH QUESTIONS.
NOW IT'S MY TURN.
HOLDER

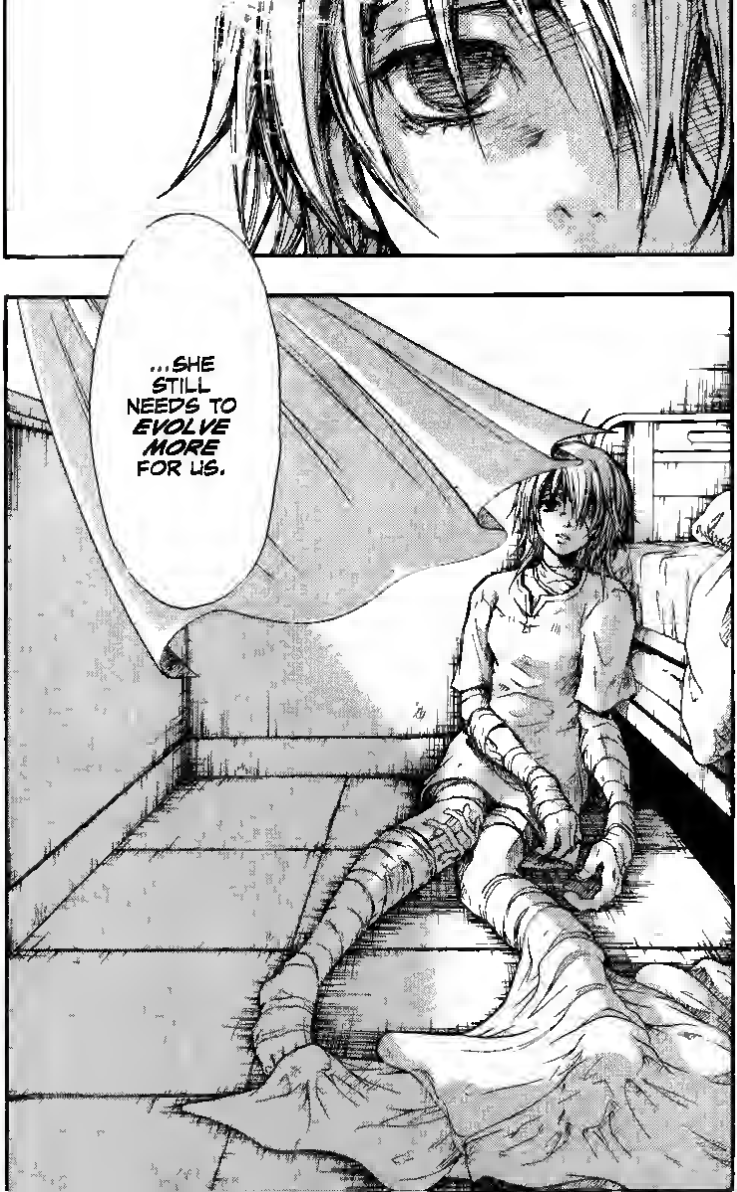
AIKO ...!
WHEN DID YOU GET THIS INFO ...?!
I THOUGHT AS MUCH!
AIKO HOSHO.
WHY IS A GIRL WHO WAS SUPPOSEDLY MURDERED TWO MONTHS AGO STILL ALIVE?
SHE'S ...
SHE'S ...
IF WE CAN'T USE HER AS A WEAPON ...
...SHE'S GOING TO BE SENT TO THE NATIONAL RESEARCH CENTER.
I CAN'T GUARANTEE THEY'LL LET HER LIVE.
OH, NO ...!
RATTLE

I CAN'T LEAVE AIKO THERE ...!!


HEY, ISN'T THAT DIRECTOR OKUDA...?
TAK
TAK
UNUSUAL TO SEE HIM NOSING AROUND THE LAB.


WE MAY NOT BE ABLE TO USE AIKO HOSHO ANYMORE.
SHE'S LOST HER DEPEND-ABILITY AS A WEAPON.

THAT'S MY CALL TO MAKE.
BESIDES, IT'S TOO EARLY TO COME TO A CONCLUSION.
AFTER ALL...


...SHE STILL NEEDS TO *EVOLVE MORE* FOR US.

CREDITS

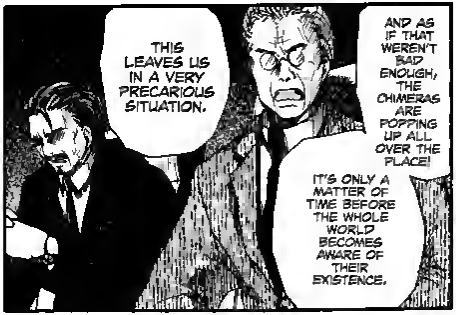
SCANNING:
DEATHY80
EDITING:
DEATHY80

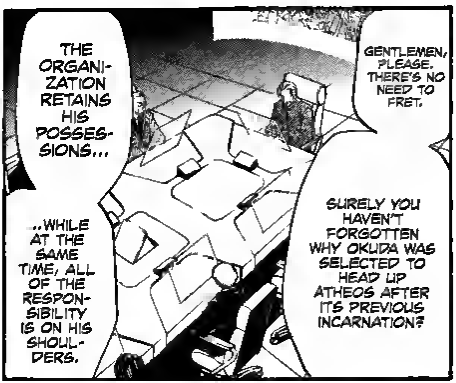
And here's my new side-project: Variante! This manga didn't have any new chapters for a long time...so thought I'd finish up the last 2 volumes =)
It's my first time scanning...so cut me some slack for the quality =P
When the next chapter comes out... can't really say for now (Yureka and HayatexBlade will come first), but I think i'll be able to release 1 chapter every 2 weeks for certain.
Anyways, enjoy my new project! =P

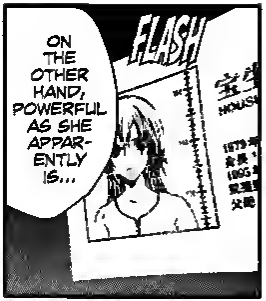
#00.13
[REMINISCENCE NOCTURNE]

DETAILS OF OUR PROJECT HAVE LEAKED TO THE OUT-SIDE...
...AND AS A RESULT, WE'VE LOST NUMBER 7*.
* AKA NANA-BAN I.E. NANA
I'M SURE I DON'T HAVE TO EMPHA-SIZE WHAT A HEAVY BLOW IT IS TO LOSE SUCH AN IDEAL RESOURCE.

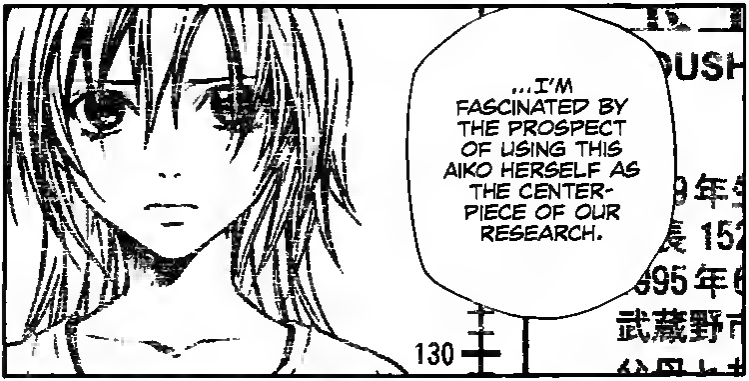
ALL WE OF THE *EXECUTIVE BOARD* NEED DO IS CONCENTRATE OUR ENERGIES ON PURE RESEARCH.


THIS LEAVES US IN A VERY PRECARIOUS SITUATION.
AND AS IF THAT WEREN'T BAD ENOUGH, THE CHIMERAS ARE POPPING UP ALL OVER THE PLACE!
IT'S ONLY A MATTER OF TIME BEFORE THE WHOLE WORLD BECOMES AWARE OF THEIR EXISTENCE.


GENTLEMEN, PLEASE. THERE'S NO NEED TO FRET.
SURELY YOU HAVEN'T FORGOTTEN WHY OKUDA WAS SELECTED TO HEAD UP ATHEOS AFTER ITS PREVIOUS INCARNATION?
THE ORGANI-ZATION RETAINS HIS POSSES-SIONS...
...WHILE AT THE SAME TIME, ALL OF THE RESPON-SIBILITY IS ON HIS SHOUL-DERS.


FLASH
ON THE OTHER HAND, POWERFUL AS SHE APPARENTLY IS...

CHUNKS OF MEAT TAKEN FROM CHIMERAS BUTCHERED BY THAT AIKO GIRL YIELD ALMOST NIL RESULTS.
YES, BUT THAT BEING THE CASE, WE STILL NEED NEW MATERIALS.


...I'M FASCINATED BY THE PROSPECT OF USING THIS AIKO HERSELF AS THE CENTERPIECE OF OUR RESEARCH.
130

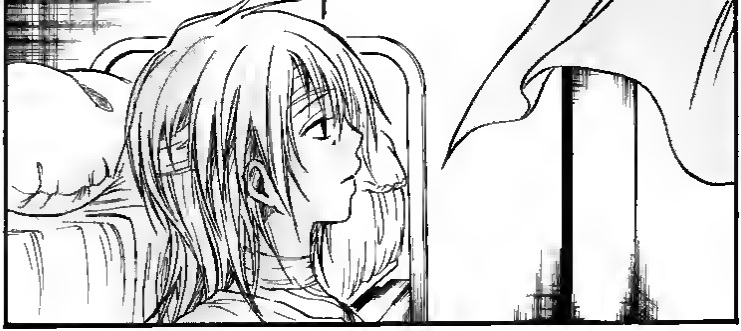
I ASSURE YOU, THAT WON'T POSE A PROBLEM.

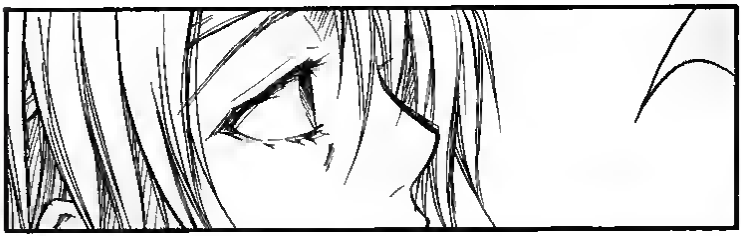
CERTAINLY, HE CLAIMS SHE'S NECESSARY AS A TOOL FOR CHIMERA RETRIEVAL, BUT WHAT'S HE REALLY GOT ON HIS MIND ...?
YES, SO SAY WE ALL ...
...BUT OKUDA DOESN'T SEEM WILLING TO GIVE HER UP.

IF WE CAN BRING HER HERE, SHE'LL BE OURS.
タイコ
TAIKO AIKO
BRRING
GENERAL AFFAIRS DIVISION
BUZZ
BUZZ
BRRING
ANNOUNCED THAT THE TROOPS MOVED IN AFTER A NUMBER OF PEOPLE WERE KILLED. THE ASSAILANT WAS APPARENTLY WIELDING A HUNTING KNIFE AND IS SUSPECTED TO BE A MEMBER OF THE TERRORIST ORGANIZATION
HOWEVER, STATEMENTS MADE BY WITNESSES DIFFER FROM THE OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT ON A NUMBER OF POINTS
SOME SOURCES CLAIM POLICE RESPONSE TO TERRORISM OF THE LAST FEW YEARS HAS BEEN UNNATURAL AND THAT INDEED THE INCIDENTS OF MASS MURDER AND BIZARRE, UNSOLVED CASES, MAY NOT BE TERRORIST-RELATED AFTER ALL
Disinformation Campaign?
LENDING CREDENCE TO RUMORS THAT SOME KIND OF DISINFORMATION CAMPAIGN IS GOING ON.
THIS CAN'T BE GOOD...
WHAT'S GONNA HAPPEN NOW?

IT'S ME...
YOU HAVEN'T FOUND SUDO YET?!
CLICK
EVENTUALLY, THE MEDIA'S GONNA CLOSE IN ON ATHEOS.
MAYBE THERE WILL BE A PRESS CONFERENCE...
YEAH, RIGHT!
TURNS OUT THE VAN THE KIDNAPPERS WERE DRIVING WAS STOLEN... AND THEY ALREADY DUMPED IT.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE JUST THE TWO OF US CAN DO...
COULD YOU CALL IN THE INTELLI-GENCE DIVISION TO LEND A HAND?
...IN NO WAY!
YOU WERE RIGHT THERE WHEN HE WAS TAKEN SO IT'S YOUR RESPON-SIBILITY TO GET HIM BACK!
SUDO'S KIDNAP-PING IS TO BE TREATED WITH THE UTMOST SECRECY!
YOU GOT ME?!
OH, COME ON...!
WHAT? WHAT'S HAPPENED?
BOOP
PEEEP
...
...
...

Record
The weapon, Aiko Hosho
Suffered damage
After the
destruction of
Research facility
...SOMETHING THAT CAN'T BE UNDONE MAY VERY WELL HAPPEN.
IF YOU DON'T RETURN SOON...
SUDO, WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING ...?!
I WARNED YOU THERE'D BE NO "THIRD CHANCE"!
BESIDES THAT...





CRICK

!!
CRUNCH
SNAP
NO!
STOP IT ...!
SKWI
RK

MUR...
DERER
...
MUR...
DERER
...
MUR-
DER-
ER...

...BE-TWEEN YOU AND US?
WHAT'S THE DIFFER-ENCE...
...STOP IT...
DON'T BLAME ME!
FORGIVE ME...!
I JUST WANTED ...
...A PLACE TO BELONG.
IN THAT CASE, ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS KEEP FIGHTING.
EVERYONE WILL SAY YOU'RE NEEDED THEN.

I HAVE VALUE... MY LIFE HAS VALUE TO THEM ONLY IF I FIGHT.
WRONG ...
WHAT THEY NEED IS A WEAPON TO BE USED AGAINST THE CHIMERAS.
OKAY, THEN...
LOOKS LIKE THE ONLY THING TO DO IS KILL THE CHIMERAS.
THAT'S NOT THE KIND OF PLACE I WANTED FOR MYSELF ...!
I DON'T WANNA BECOME A TOOL TO KILL PEOPLE!
BUT THEY'RE HUMAN !!
WOULD YOU RATHER BE ALONE AGAIN?

EVERY TIME I FIGHT...
...A PIECE OF MY HEART DIES.
I WANT TO STAY AIKO HOSHO...
LIAR!
ALL YOU'RE DOING IS RUNNING AWAY FROM THE UNPLEASANTNESS IN FRONT OF YOU.
AFTER ALL...

...LOOK AT THE LAST PLACE...
...WHERE AIKO HOSHO "BELONGED".
COME HERE...
THAT'S A GOOD GIRL!
FROM NOW ON, WE'RE GOING TO BE A FAMILY.
WE'RE YOUR PARENTS!
I'M SURE WE'LL GET ALONG SPLENDIDLY, AIKO-CHAN!

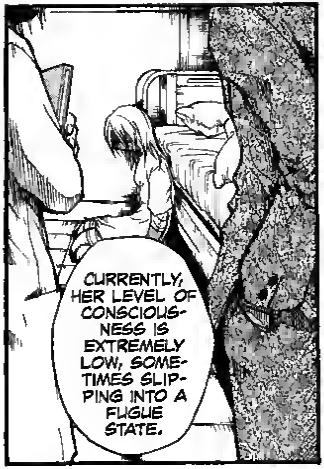
I'M JUST NOT CONFIDENT I CAN REALLY LOVE HER...
WHY NOT ...?
SHE'S A GOOD GIRL... OBEDIENT ...SO WHAT'S WRONG?

I DON'T KNOW...
EVERY TIME SHE CALLS ME "MAMA"...
...CAN'T HELP FEELING...
...LIKE I'M TRICKING HER
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT? "TRICKING HER"...?
MAKE NO MISTAKE, WE'RE HER PARENTS NOW!
THAT'S WHAT WE DECIDED, ISN'T IT?
AND AIKO IS OUR DEAR CHILD.
...YOU'RE RIGHT.
...WHY?
WHY DO I HAVE TO SEE THIS NOW...?

HOSHO-SAN, WE ALL WANT YOU TO BE OUR CLASS REP FOR THE STUDENT LIBRARY COMMITTEE
AIKO, IF I HADN'T KNOWN YOU SINCE WE WERE LITTLE, I'D NEVER BE HANGING OUT WITH YOU NOW!
DAD SAYS HE'S GOING TO BUY YOU A PIANO, AIKO. ISN'T THAT WONDERFUL?
SORRY BUT WOULD YOU MIND SWITCHING TO DAY DUTY FOR ME?
PIANO PRACTICE?
OH, COME ON, YOU CAN DO THAT ANYTIME...
NOW YOU CAN BECOME AN EVEN BETTER PIANIST.
...NOOO...
LISTEN TO EVERYONE, AIKO...
YOU HAVE TO BE A GOOD GIRL.
STOP IT...! DON'T...

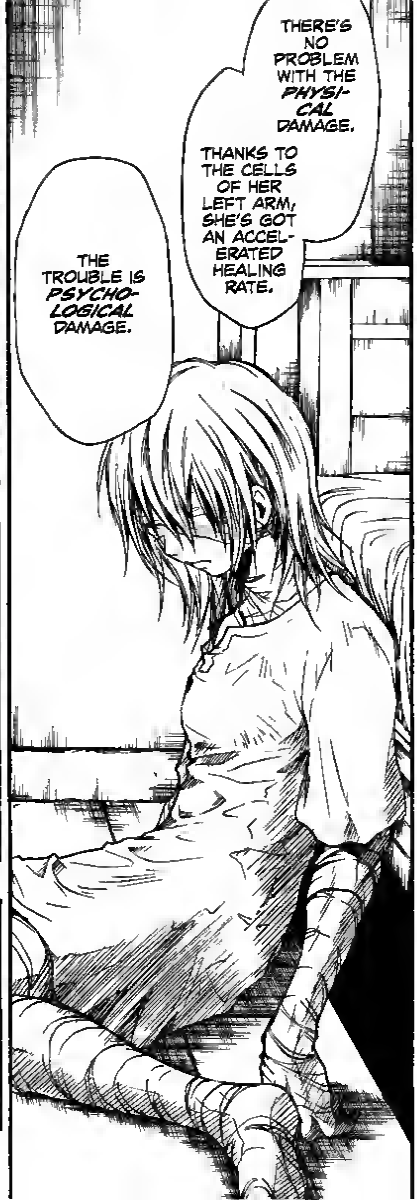
DON'T MAKE ME REMEMBER...!
IF ...
IF ALL THAT'S TRUE ...
...THEN WHAT CAN I DO?!

HNN
...
WITH EVERY-ONE GONE ...WHAT AM I?
WHERE AM I SUPPOSED TO GO...?!
HHHH
...
!
PLEASE
...
...SOME-BODY
...
...
...
...


CURRENTLY, HER LEVEL OF CONSCIOUSNESS IS EXTREMELY LOW, SOMETIMES SLIPPING INTO A FUGUE STATE.

CAN SHE BE BROUGHT BACK?
I CAN'T SAY FOR SURE.

PSYCHOTHERAPY ISN'T MY SPECIALTY.
TAK

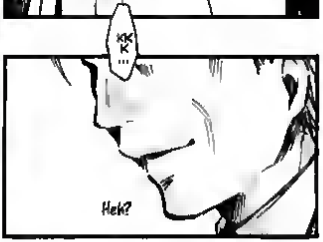

THERE'S NO PROBLEM WITH THE PHYSICAL DAMAGE.
THANKS TO THE CELLS OF HER LEFT ARM, SHE'S GOT AN ACCELERATED HEALING RATE.
THE TROUBLE IS PSYCHOLOGICAL DAMAGE.

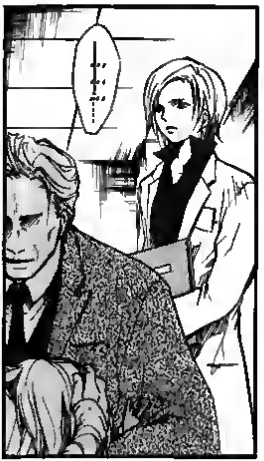
...
...
...
STARE
AIKO-SAN, WAKE UP.
YOU'LL CATCH A COLD SLEEPING LIKE THAT.
IF YOU WOULD, PLEASE LOOK AT MY FACE.
IT'S A PLEA-SURE TO MEET YOU, YOUNG LADY.
Hew?

...
...
...
SMACK
DI-
RECTOR
?!
WHAT
ARE
YOU
...?!
SLAM!

OH, I DO APOLOGIZE. THAT HURT, DIDN'T IT?
I JUST WANTED TO CHECK YOUR LEVEL OF CONSCIOUSNESS MYSELF.
ACTUALLY, IT'S GOOD THAT YOU CAN FEEL THE SENSATION OF PAIN.
IT'S PROOF THAT YOU'RE ALIVE.

HN NN...
UHH HH
HEE


KK K...
Hek?


...
...
...

CERTAINLY, SHE'S CLOSER TO SUDO THAN ANYONE ...
...BUT I DON'T KNOW WHETHER EVEN HE CAN WAKE HER UP.
HAVE NO FEAR.
I'VE GOT AN IDEA.
USE THAT SUDO OR WHATEVER HIS NAME IS...
...TO SNAP HER OUT OF IT.
WHAT IS IT, SIR...?
WHY ARE YOU SO FIXATED ON AIKO HOSHO?
AFTER LOOKING AT YOUR DATA, I DID SOME INVESTIGATING OF MY OWN.
HERS IS TRULY A UNIQUE, INVALUABLE EXISTENCE.

SHE'S THE LEGACY ...
...LEFT BEHIND BY THE PREVIOUS GENERATION.
YOU MEAN... SHE WAS ONE OF THE TEST SUB-JECTS ...?
BUT 99.9% OF HER DNA HAS ALREADY BEEN CHECKED.
SHE'S STILL ...
...IN THE PROCESS OF EVOLVING.

CREDITS
SCANNING:
DEATHY80
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DEATHY80
And there we go, chapter 13 is finished! =p
Since the chapter was a bit smaller than the previous one, I could finish it sooner as expected *yaay* ^.^
The next chapter also isn't that big, so i might be able to release it during the weekend, no promises though.
Anyways, enjoy reading chapter 13 =)
Variante
requiem for the world
HTTP://DEATHY80.BLOGSPOT.COM

FLASH
#0014
[DREAM OF A MAYFLY]
SO BRIGHT ...
...WHO ARE THESE PEOPLE?
ANOTHER EXAMINATION?
BUT ...

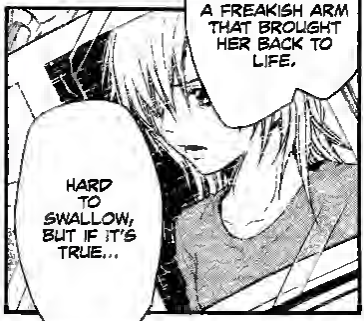
NEXT, NANA-BAN.
SIT ON THAT BED.
OKAY.
... OH ...
HELLO.
I KNOW ...
... THIS GIRL.
... HIM TOO.
MAYBE THEM TOO...

WHERE IS THIS AGAIN ...?
IS THIS MY MEMORY ...?
JUST SIT STILL
SSS
YOU'RE GOING TO SLEEP A BIT LONGER.
NO... THIS IS...
SSS
SSS
THEY NEED TO BE PUNISHED BY SOCIETY.

TO FURTHER THOSE ENDS, I'VE CROSSED MANY A DANGEROUS BRIDGE OVER THE YEARS...
...GATHERING MATERIALS WHICH WILL EVENTUALLY BECOME EVIDENCE.
ATHEOS' INHUMAN CONDUCT HAS TO BE EXPOSED TO THE PUBLIC...
...AND THE ORGANIZATION NEEDS TO BE REFORMED FROM ITS FOUNDATIONS ON UP.
SUDO-KUN... YOU'RE ALWAYS GOING IN AND OUT OF ATHEOS'S RESEARCH LAB.
YOU'D BE ABLE TO SLIP THROUGH SECURITY AND MAKE YOUR WAY DEEP INSIDE.
WHAT DO YOU HAVE IN MIND?
& BUT I ALSO DON'T HAVE THE SLIGHTEST INTENTION OF RETURNING TO THE COMPANY.
I DON'T TRUST SERA COMPLETELY.
I NEED MORE CONCRETE PROOF TYING THOSE PLACES TO ATHEOS.
ALONG THE WAY...
...I'VE DISCOVERED SEVERAL HIDDEN FACILITIES, BUT ALL OF THEM BELONG SOLELY TO THE EXECUTIVE BOARD.

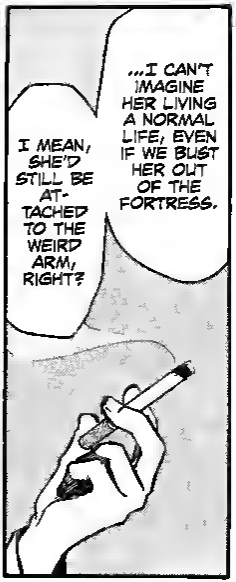
I BELIEVE SOMETHING IS AT THE CORE OF THEIR RESEARCH FACILITY, SOMETHING ONLY THE HIGHEST OF THE HIGH-UPS KNOW ABOUT...
I DON'T KNOW IF THERE'S A CONNECTION WITH THE BREEDING EXPERIMENTS, BUT IT'S WORTH LOOKING INTO.
THAT'S SOME MIGHTY AMBIGUOUS INFO THERE, BUT WHATEVER THE ORGANIZATION MAY BE HIDING, IT WOULDN'T SURPRISE ME IN THE LEAST.
IN WHICH CASE, LISTENING TO HIS WORDS MAY BE GOOD STRATEGY.
...UNCOVERING IT, THOUGH, THAT SOUNDS LIKE A RISKY ENDEAVOR.
SO IF I PLAY BALL WITH YOU...
...I WANT YOUR COOPERATION IN RESCUING AIKO HOSHO.
IF ATHEOS DISAPPEARS, AIKO LOSES HER "PLACE".
SHE'S INNOCENT AND I WANNA HELP HER.
I DON'T MIND...
...BUT I CAN'T GUARANTEE WE'RE GOING TO MAKE IT BACK OUT ALIVE.
IT'S LIKE YOU SAID, THIS IS A RISKY PLAN.
IF WE'RE FOUND OUT, WE'LL BE SNUFFED, NO TWO WAYS ABOUT IT...THAT'S THE KIND OF ORGANIZATION ATHEOS IS.
RISKY...

YOU SAID SHE'S NEITHER A FORMER PATIENT NOR A "NEW, IMPROVED" CHIMERA. JUST A GIRL WHO'S GOT A FREAKISH ARM THAT BROUGHT HER BACK TO LIFE.


HARD TO SWALLOW, BUT IF IT'S TRUE...

I KNOW.
EVEN SO...
...I HAVE TO PROTECT HER.

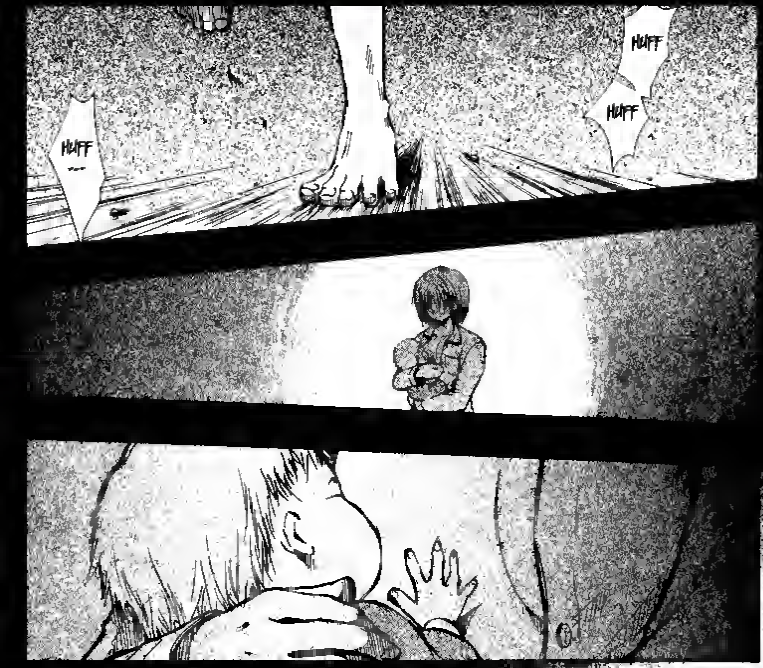
IF WHAT ATHEOS HAS DONE IS BROUGHT TO LIGHT OF COURSE THAT ALSO MEANS THE EXISTENCE OF THE CHIMERAS WILL GO PUBLIC...
...YEAH...


I MEAN, SHE'D STILL BE AT-TACHED TO THE WEIRD ARM, RIGHT?
...I CAN'T IMAGINE HER LIVING A NORMAL LIFE, EVEN IF WE BUST HER OUT OF THE FORTRESS.

HOW WILL SOCIETY REACT WHEN THEY LEARN THAT THERE REALLY ARE MONSTERS AMONG US...?
HOW WILL AIKO BE TREATED...?
HUH, YOU'RE GONNA GET THIS GIRL OUT?
SHE LOOKS KINDA GLOOMY...
I WANT YOUR OPINION, I'LL ASK FOR IT!
WHO'LL UNDERSTAND HER...?
...BUT I BET...
...YOU GET HER TO LAUGH, SHE'S HELLA CUTE.

HURRY UP AND SPRING HER.
I WANNA BE HER FRIEND.
YOU WOULDN'T HAVE A PROBLEM WITH THAT, WOULD YA?
ONE PERSON WHO REMEMBERS WHAT THAT GIRL'S SMILE LOOKS LIKE...
...
...
...
NO, NO, THAT'D BE COOL.
I'M SURE AIKO WOULD LOVE TO HAVE A FRIEND...
AND MAYBE SOMEDAY SHE'LL BE ABLE TO SMILE AGAIN...

BEEP
BEEP
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?! RUN
...OR YOU WON'T MAKE IT OUT!
HURRY!
WAAA


HUFF
HUFF
HUFF

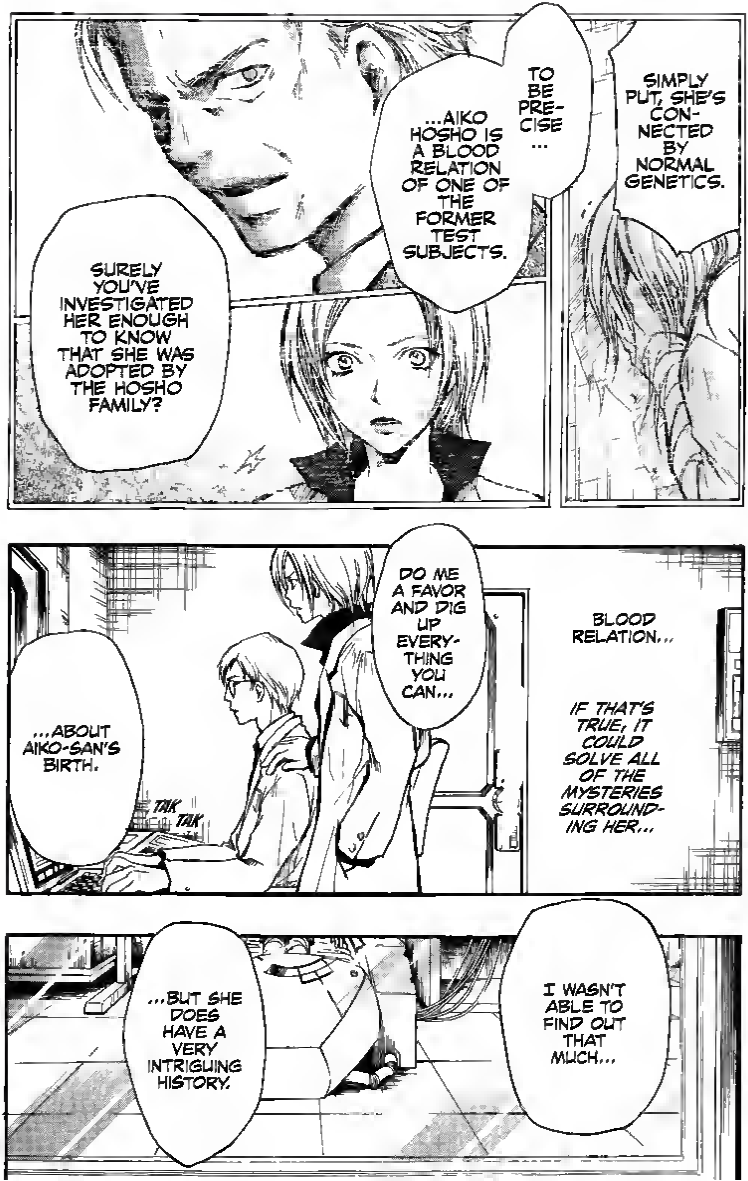
HUFF
HUFF

THUMP
THUMP

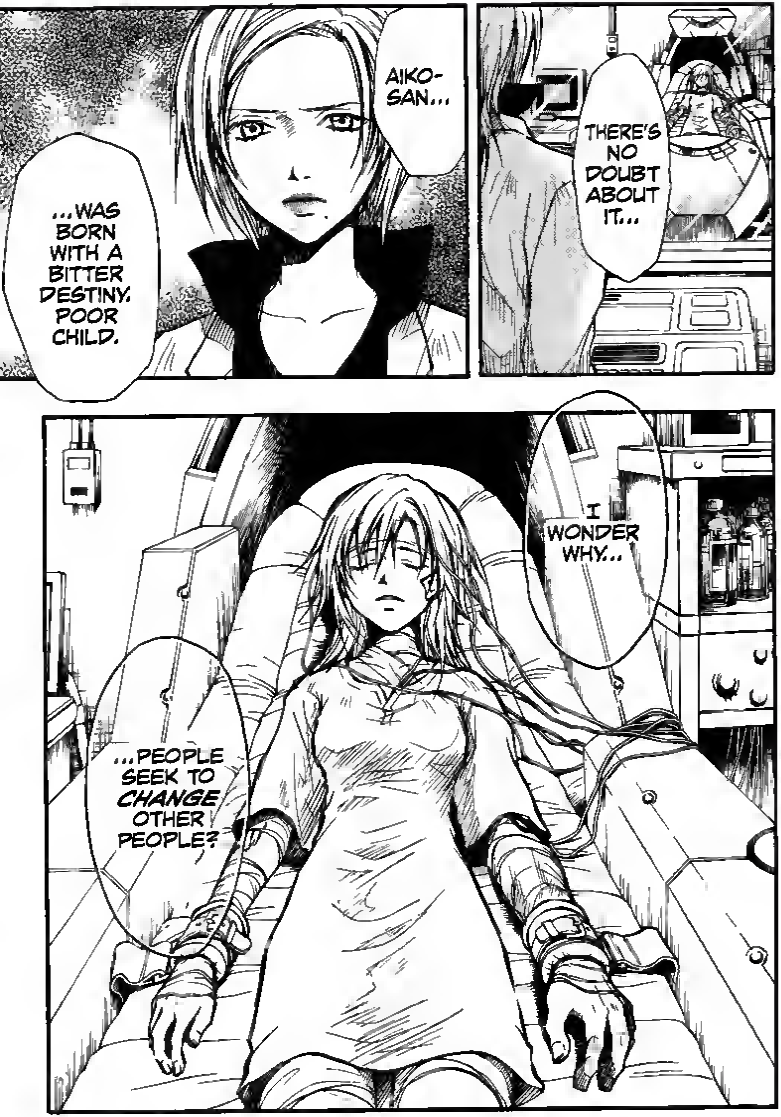
GENTLE
...

...FAMILIAR
SCENT...

BEEP
BEEP
LOOK AT HER BRAIN-WAVES.
...SHE MUST BE DREAM-ING.
THEY'RE MORE ACTIVE THAN WHEN SHE'S AWAKE.
DIREC-TOR!
BY "LEGACY OF THE PREVI-OUS GENERA-TION"...
...DO YOU MEAN SHE WAS ONE OF THE TEST SUBJECTS AT THE TIME?!
HOW LONG DO YOU INTEND ON HIDING OUT IN THE LAND OF DREAMS, AIKO-SAN...?


SIMPLY PUT, SHE'S CONNECTED BY NORMAL GENETICS.
TO BE PRECISE ...
...AIKO HOSHO IS A BLOOD RELATION OF ONE OF THE FORMER TEST SUBJECTS.
SURELY YOU'VE INVESTIGATED HER ENOUGH TO KNOW THAT SHE WAS ADOPTED BY THE HOSHO FAMILY?
BLOOD RELATION...
IF THAT'S TRUE, IT COULD SOLVE ALL OF THE MYSTERIES SURROUNDING HER...
DO ME A FAVOR AND DIG UP EVERYTHING YOU CAN...
...ABOUT AIKO-SAN'S BIRTH.
TAK TAK
I WASN'T ABLE TO FIND OUT THAT MUCH...
...BUT SHE DOES HAVE A VERY INTRIGUING HISTORY.

FROM ABOUT SIX MONTHS 'TIL THE AGE OF THREE, AIKO WAS RAISED IN AN ORPHANAGE. AFTER THAT, SHE WAS ADOPTED BY THE HOSHOS.
BUT BEFORE SHE WAS DELIVERED TO THE ORPHANAGE, THERE WAS A...I GUESS YOU COULD SAY TRAGEDY.
THE POLICE FOUND A CRYING INFANT NEXT TO THE BODY OF THE WOMAN THOUGHT TO BE HER MOTHER.
THE BODY ...?
SHE APPEARED TO HAVE BEEN MURDERED. THE CAUSE OF DEATH WAS STRANGULATION.
THERE WERE NO RECORDS TO BE FOUND OF EITHER THE WOMAN'S MARRIAGE OR HER DAUGHTER'S BIRTH.
THERE WAS NOTHING, WAS THERE?
SIMILARLY, REGARDING THE FATHER...
CORRECT.


AIKO-SAN...
...WAS BORN WITH A BITTER DESTINY. POOR CHILD.
THERE'S NO DOUBT ABOUT IT...
I WONDER WHY...
...PEOPLE SEEK TO *CHANGE* OTHER PEOPLE?

TAK
TAK
505
Masami
Sudo
TAK

MOM...

...I CAN'T GUARANTEE WE'RE GOING TO MAKE IT BACK OUT ALIVE.
IF WE'RE FOUND OUT, WE'LL BE SNUFFED, NO TWO WAYS ABOUT IT...
.....
TAK
HIROMI...

YOU KNOW, YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT ME.
EVER SINCE YOU WERE A BOY, YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN SO KIND... ALWAYS THINKING ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE...
BUT IT'S ENOUGH.
I DON'T WANT TO BE A BURDEN ON YOU 'TIL THE DAY I DIE...
...SO START DOING WHAT *YOU* WANT TO DO.

GOOD NIGHT...
...HIROMI.
.....
CLICK
BE CAREFUL...

BZZZ
BZZZ
WHO IS IT?
incoming call
RATTLE
!!
SUDO ?!
CHIEF... IT'S ME.
?!
CHIEF USUI...
I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK.
WHERE ARE YOU...?!

BOOP
BOOP

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DON'T MISS THE FINAL VOLUME IN JULY!

By Iqura Sugimoto Sudo makes his final stand against Atheos, determined to rescue Aiko and take down the agency. Aiko learns the true nature of her origin and the shocking secret behind the slaughter of her family. An ally from her past returns, but what's the reason behind his appearance at this critical time? Many mysteries are resolved and Aiko's full fury is unleashed. Will she ever be able to find some semblance of peace again?

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CREDITS
SCANNING:
DEATHY80
EDITING:
DEATHY80
And here we go....another chapter of Variante! Chapter 14 is finished, and this also concludes volume 3. I'll continue right away with volume 4...but since I've got alot of chapters to edit for Yureka I'm not sure when I can release chapter 15 (could be tomorrow, but could be next week). Anyways, enjoy reading chapter 14 for now =P
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requiem for the world
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